

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Permission to use Foreign Exchange Held by Big Industrial Houses

2634. SHRI KARIA MUNDA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Reserve Bank of India had given permission to companies to use foreign exchange held by some of the big industrial houses during 1990-91;

(b) if so, the details thereof, company-wise; and

(c) the purpose for which these companies were permitted to use foreign exchange?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI RAMESHWAR THAKUR): (a) to (c). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Merger or Amalgamation of Public Sector Banks

2635. SHRI DHARMANNA MONDAYYA SADUL:
SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Indian Banks Association, the Apex Body of Banking Industry proposed merger or amalgamation of 28 public sector banks and creation of only 12 banks with branches all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) Government have not received any proposal from Indian Banks' Association suggesting merger or amalgamation of 28 public sector banks and creation of only 12 banks with branches all over the country.

(b) to (c). Do not arise.

[Translation]

Setting up of Regional Office of Oriental Insurance Company at Dehradun.

2636. SHRI BHUWAN CHANDRA KHANDURI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the proposed Regional Office of the Oriental Insurance Company Limited has been set up at Dehradun;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether there is any proposal under consideration to open the proposed office at NOIDA instead of Dehradun; and

(d) if not, the time by which the Regional Office would start functioning at Dehradun?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b). The Oriental Insurance Company Limited has already its Regional Office at Lucknow which is looking after the entire Uttar Pradesh.

(c) No, Sir.